AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A coated preparation comprising

component (A) at least one hydroformate of the general formula (I)

(I) $M_3[HCOO]_3 * HCOOH$

where M = Na, K, Cs, NH_4

component (B) at least one coating material selected from the group consisting of

a) hardened vegetable oils/fats, which are hydrogenated or partially hydrogenated and

b) benzoic acid, salts of benzoic acid, esters of benzoic acid, derivatives of benzoic acid, salts of benzoic acid derivatives, esters of benzoic acid derivatives or a mixture thereof.

2. (Original) A preparation as claimed in claim 1 wherein the hydroformate is trisodium hydroformate.

3. (Previously presented) A preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein the preparation comprises further constituents and/or additives and/or supports.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously presented) A preparation as claimed in claim 1, which is a powder with a mean particle size of from 1 μm to 10,000 μm.

6. (Withdrawn) A process for preparing coated preparations as claimed in claim 1, which comprises

(i) charging at least one hydroformate, optionally with admixture of further constituents and/or additives

(ii) coating the resultant mixture with a coating material, optionally together with further constituents.

7. (Withdrawn) A process for preparing coated preparations as claimed in claim 1, which comprises

(i) charging coating material, optionally with addition of further constituents, in a suitable apparatus

(ii) adding at least one hydroformate, optionally together with further constituents and/or additives.

8. (Withdrawn) A process for preparing preparations as claimed in claim 1, which comprises applying the hydroformates, before the coating, to a support material.

9. (Withdrawn) A process for preparing coated preparations as claimed in claim 1, which comprises

(i) dispersing at least one hydroformate, optionally together with further constituents and/or additives, in melts of suitable coating materials

(ii) finely dividing and solidifying the resultant dispersions.

10. (Withdrawn) A process for preparing coated preparations as claimed in claim 1, which comprises

(i) dispersing at least one hydroformate, optionally together with further constituents and/or additives, in a coating material,

(ii) emulsifying it in an aqueous solution of a protective colloid,

(iii) and subjecting it to shaping by spraying and subsequent or simultaneous drying.

11. (Withdrawn) A process for preparing coated preparations as claimed in claim 1, which comprises coating at least one hydroformate by desublimating the coating material.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Withdrawn) A process for preparing a feed and/or feed additive comprising at least one hydroformate, which comprises

(i) adding a preparation as claimed in claim 1 to a premix

(ii) mixing the resultant premix with the remaining constituents of the feed and/or feed additive.

15. (Withdrawn) (Currently Amended) An animal feed comprising a preparation as claimed in ~~claim~~ claim 1.

16. - 20. (Cancelled)

21. (Withdrawn) The animal feed as claimed in claim 15, wherein the feed can be feed to pigs, poultry or calves.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously presented) A performance enhancer and/or growth promoter which comprises the preparation as claimed in claim 1.

24. (Withdrawn) An acidifier which comprises the preparation as claimed in claim 1.

25. (Withdrawn) A preservative which comprises the preparation as claimed in claim 1.

26. (Withdrawn) A silage additive which comprises the preparation as claimed in claim 1.

27. (Withdrawn) A fertilizer which comprises the preparation as claimed in claim 1.

28. (Currently Amended) A preparation as claimed in claim 2, which is a powder with a mean particle size of from 20 μm to 5,000 μm ~~and coating material is at least one compound which is selected from the group consisting of~~

~~a) polyethylene glycols, having a number-average molecular weight of from about 400 to 10 000;~~

~~b) block copolymers of polyoxyethylene and polyoxypropylene having a number-average molecular weight of from about 4000 to 20 000;~~

~~c) substituted polystyrenes, maleic acid derivatives and also styrene-maleic acid copolymers;~~

~~d) polyvinylpyrrolidones having a number-average molecular weight of from about 7000 to 1 000 000;~~

~~e) vinylpyrrolidone/vinyl acetate copolymers having a number-average molecular weight of from about 30 000 to 100 000;~~

~~f) poly(vinyl alcohol) having a number-average molecular weight of from about 10 000 to 200 000, poly(vinyl phthalate)s;~~

~~g) hyroxypropylmethylcellulose having a number-average molecular weight of from about 6000 to 80 000;~~

~~h) alkyl (meth)acrylate polymers and copolymers having a number-average molecular weight of from about 100 000 to 1 000 000, in particular ethyl acrylate/methyl methacrylate copolymers and methacrylate/ethyl acrylate copolymers;~~

~~i) poly(vinyl acetate) having a number-average molecular weight of from about 250 000 to 700 000, optionally stabilized with polyvinylpyrrolidone;~~

~~j) polyethylenes;~~

~~k) phenoxyacetic acid-formaldehyde resin;~~

~~l) cellulose derivatives, such as ethylcellulose, ethylmethylcellulose, methylcellulose, hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, carboxymethylcellulose, cellulose acetate phthalate;~~

~~m) animal, vegetable or synthetic fats;~~

~~n) animal, plant or synthetic waxes or chemically modified animal, plant waxes such as beeswax, candelilla wax, carnauba wax, montan ester wax and rice germ oil wax, spermaceti, lanolin, jojoba wax, sasol wax, Japan wax or Japan wax substitute;~~

~~o) gelatin, gelatin derivatives, gelatin substitutes, casein, whey, keratin, soybean protein, zein or wheat protein;~~

~~p) starches, modified starches, pectins, alginates, chitosan, or carrageenans;~~

~~q) sunflower oil, thistle oil, cottonseed oil, soybean oil, corn germ oil, olive oil, rape(seed) oil, linseed oil, coconut oil, palm kernel oil, or palm oil;~~

~~r) medium-chain triglycerides or mineral oils;~~

~~s) herring oil, sardine oil or whale oil;~~

~~t) hydrogenated palm oil, hydrogenated cottonseed oil, or hydrogenated soybean oil;~~

~~u) shellac, Tolu balsam, Peru balsam, sandarac or silicone resins;~~

~~v) fatty acids, not only saturated but also monounsaturated and polyunsaturated C_6- to C_{24}-carboxylic acids;~~

~~w) silicic acids;~~

~~x) benzoic acid and/or salts of benzoic acid and/or esters of benzoic acid and/or derivatives of benzoic acid and/or salts of benzoic acid derivatives and/or esters of benzoic acid derivatives.~~

29. (Cancelled)

30. (New) A preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein the coating material B) is hydrogenated palm oil, hydrogenated cottonseed oil or hydrogenated soybean oil.

31. (New) A coated preparation comprising

component (A) at least one hydroformate of the general formula (I)

(I) $M_3[HCOO]_3 * HCOOH$

where M = Na, K, Cs, NH_4

component (B) at least one coating material selected from the group consisting of

a) polyethylene glycols, having a number-average molecular weight of from about 400 to 10 000;

b) block copolymers of polyoxyethylene and polyoxypropylene having a number-average molecular weight of from about 4000 to 20 000;

c) substituted polystyrenes, maleic acid derivatives or styrene-maleic acid copolymers;

d) polyvinylpyrrolidones having a number-average molecular weight of from about 7000 to 1 000 000;

e) vinylpyrrolidone/vinyl acetate copolymers having a number-average molecular weight of from about 30 000 to 100 000;

f) poly(vinyl alcohol) having a number-average molecular weight of from about 10 000 to 200 000,

g) hydroxypropylmethylcellulose having a number-average molecular weight of from about 6000 to 80 000;

h) alkyl (meth)acrylate polymers and copolymers having a number-average molecular weight of from about 100 000 to 1 000 000;

i) poly(vinyl acetate) having a number-average molecular weight of from about 250 000 to 700 000, optionally stabilized with polyvinylpyrrolidone;

j) polyethylenes;

k) phenoxyacetic acid-formaldehyde resin;

l) cellulose derivatives;

m) animal, vegetable or synthetic fats;

n) animal, plant or synthetic waxes or chemically modified animal, plant waxes;

o) gelatin, gelatin derivatives, gelatin substitutes, casein, whey, keratin, soybean protein; zein or wheat protein;

p) starches, modified starches, pectins, alginates, chitosan, or carrageenans;

q) sunflower oil, thistle oil, cottonseed oil, soybean oil, corn germ oil, olive oil, rape(seed) oil, linseed oil, coconut oil, palm kernel oil, or palm oil;

r) medium-chain triglycerides or mineral oils;

s) herring oil, sardine oil or whale oil;

t) hydrogenated palm oil, hydrogenated cottonseed oil, or hydrogenated soybean oil;

u) shellac, Tolu balsam, Peru balsam, sandarac or silicone resins;

v) fatty acids, not only saturated but also monounsaturated and polyunsaturated C_6- to C_{24}-carboxylic acids;

w) silicic acids;

x) benzoic acid, salts of benzoic acid, esters of benzoic acid, derivatives of benzoic acid, salts of benzoic acid derivatives, esters of benzoic acid derivatives or a mixture thereof.

32. (New) The coating composition as claim 31, wherein component (B) is at least one coating material selected from the group consisting of ethylcellulose, ethylmethylcellulose,

methylcellulose, hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, carboxymethylcellulose, cellulose acetate phthalate; beeswax, candelilla wax, carnauba wax, montan ester wax, rice germ oil wax, spermaceti, lanolin, jojoba wax, sasol wax, Japan wax, Japan wax substitute; ethyl acrylate/methyl methacrylate copolymers and methacrylate/ethyl acrylate copolymers.